



MOAA LANCASTER CHAPTER

P.O. Box 5031, Lancaster, PA 17606-5031

NEWSLETTER

Visit our Web Site at www.moaalancasterchapt.org

May 2023

Editor: Tom Bender

Volume 30 Number 3

• Our next Membership Meeting is June 8th:

The historic Hamilton Club, 106 East Orange Street, Lancaster, PA 17602, is the site for our June 8th dinner/meeting. Named in honor of James Hamilton, a prominent political figure in Colonial America and planner of the city of Lancaster, the Hamilton Club was founded in 1889 by 31 prominent citizens seeking a place to gather.

The gathering will begin with a cash bar and social hour from 5 to 6 p.m. The meeting will be called to order at 6 p.m. with introductory remarks by our President, Bill Confer. Dinner will quickly follow with a menu that includes:

Salad:

Spinach and Strawberry Salad Tossed with Goat Cheese and Avocado Topped with Balsamic Vinaigrette and assorted Dinner Rolls and Butter.

Entrée:

Beef Tips, Mushrooms, and Veal Jus on Toast.

Sides:

Smashed Rosemary Red Potatoes, and Roasted Broccoli.

Beverages:

Coffee, Hot and Iced Tea, Water.

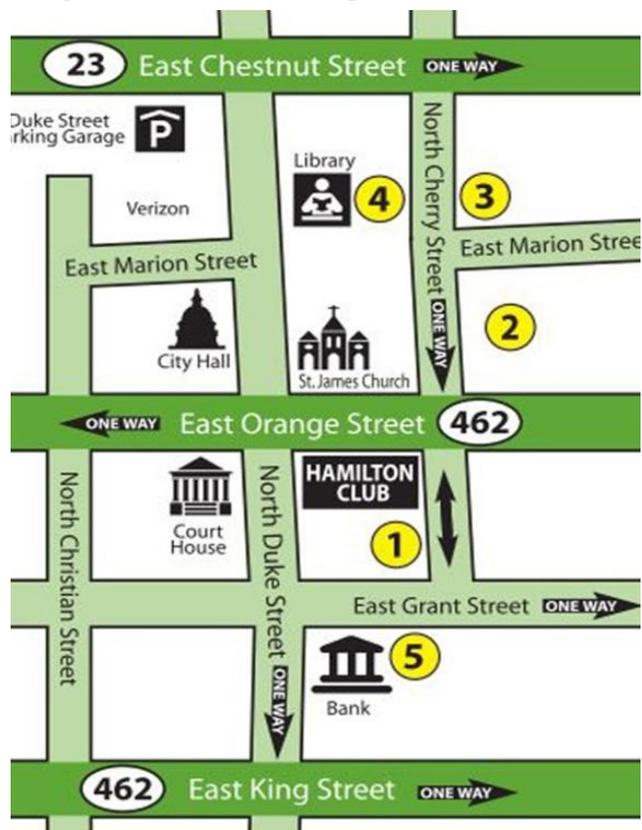
Dessert:

White Chocolate Mousse with Strawberry Sauce and Blueberries.

The cost of the meal will be \$42 per person. As always, your check is your reservation and should be made out to MOAA Lancaster Chapter, ATTN: Meeting Reservations, P.O. Box 5031, Lancaster, PA 17606-5031. Be sure to write the names of your guests on your check for name tag purposes.

The deadline for receipt of all checks is Monday, June 5th. Cancellations and any questions should be directed to Bill Zeird prior to June 5th, at 717 626-0232 or email at rgerzsr@gmail.com.

Free Parking is available behind the Hamilton Club at the Murry Insurance Lot (see #1 in map below). The club is accessible from N. Cherry Street or E. Grant Street. Park in spots numbered 1 to 28 only. Metered street parking along Orange St. and Duke St. is also available and is not charged after 6 p.m. Another parking option is the Duke St. Garage where you can enter from either E. Chestnut St. (Rte 23) or N. Duke St. Disregard parking sites 2,3,4 & 5 in map below.



Our Guest Speaker will be Zach Waltz, who is the Director of Operations at Waltz Vineyard Estate Winery in Manheim, PA. He grew up working in the business and developed a passion for grape-growing and winemaking from a young age.



Guest Speaker (cont'd)

Zach is an alumnus of Cornell University where he received a bachelor's degree in Viticulture and Enology. Prior to joining Waltz Vineyards full-time, he completed internships at E. & J. Gallo Winery as a Winemaker Intern and at Chateau Ste. Michelle as a Viticulture Technician Intern.

In his current role, Zach oversees the day-to-day operations of the grape and wine production. With a passion for winemaking and a commitment to excellence, Zach is dedicated to producing high-quality wines that showcase the unique terroir of the region.

• From the President's Desk:

As you read this message, I hope it finds you all well and healthy. We are hopeful that COVID remains behind us.



Bill Confer Sr

As discussed in our March newsletter, our Board of Directors has agreed to support five different JROTC groups thru this year and next. The Board also decided to invest \$10,000 of our assets in short term CDs as our Treasurer has discussed in following paragraphs.

For your information, we have several of our incoming officers selected to attend a regional MOAA National sponsored conference/workshop on June 2-3 in Providence, RI. It should serve to help our attendees help us with fresh ideas to keep our chapter active and engaging.

We meet next at the Hamilton Club. Public parking can be a chore but after 6 p.m. street parking is free. Please note that there is free parking behind the Hamilton Club as noted in the diagram on the first page. Saturday, August 26th, is our Picnic at Waltz's Vineyard. Please mark your calendar. We would love to see you all there.

Our Chapter needs volunteers to step forward and assume some important positions that are being vacated at the end of the year. These positions are listed on the last page. Please consider volunteering! Our Nominating Chair, David Shelton, and Membership-Tom Bender, have the task of filling these vacancies. But, you, as members can help them by suggesting interested candidates. Let's all pitch-in—we need your involvement! MOAA National's motto "Never Stop Serving" is as appropriate today as in the past. My volunteering to be president has been very rewarding to me and I am

• From the President's Desk: (cont'd)

sure those of our members who have served or are serving can say the same.

We had 49 attendees at our dinner/meeting at Meadia Heights Golf Club. The food was excellent and the speaker was interesting and informative. I am hopeful that we can exceed that number at the Hamilton Club on June 8th. Zach's presentation on Waltz Vineyards should be entertaining and also informative. Please consider coming and be sure to send your checks in by our deadline of June 5th. See you at the Hamilton Club. God Bless.

• Chapter Financial Report: The MOAA Lancaster Chapter ended 2022 with a checking-account balance of \$17,409.30, which was about \$160 less than the account balance at the end of 2021. The careful stewardship of the chapter's financial resources by the chapter's leadership has enabled the chapter to remain fiscally sound without the need to increase the annual dues' amount of \$15 since 1998. Although the chapter's membership continues to decline, the greatest challenge is the late payment of annual dues. It is still \$15 per year or \$40 for three years. Members are encouraged to pay their dues promptly at the beginning of the year.

While costs to print and mail the chapter's bimonthly newsletter have significantly increased over the years, having more and more members receive it by email has kept this cost from adversely impacting our bottom line. If members have an email account and are not getting the newsletter by that means, Tom Bender will be pleased to assist in making this change.

The chapter's finances for last year were successfully reported to the IRS and have undergone a rigorous audit with no discrepancies noted. Member Ed Hurston is to be commended for this successful audit, one of the many he has done for the chapter over the past years.

As the chapter seeks to increase its support of young adults enrolled in various ROTC and other military programs, your leadership has decided to put \$10,000 of our assets into short-term certificates of deposit, which will generate about \$500 annually in additional revenue for this purpose. However, members can further that effort with a direct donation to our scholarship programs to enable more financial support to be provided.—Dennis Benchhoff, Treasurer



• **2023 Membership Mtgs & Venues:**

Please put these dates in your calendars and plan on joining us for good food and fellowship in 2023:

Thursday, Jun 8, 5 p.m., The Hamilton Club
 Saturday, Aug 26, 11 a.m., Waltz Vineyard picnic
 Thursday, Oct 12, 5 p.m., Bent Creek CC
 Sunday, Dec 3, 1 p.m., Millersville University

• **Breakfast Gatherings:**

Our breakfasts gatherings will continue in 2023 on the third Thursday of each month where there is no membership meeting. For 2023, our remaining Breakfast Gatherings will be on the following dates:

Thursday May 18
 Thursday, Jul 20
 Thursday, Sep 21
 Thursday, Nov 16.

As usual, the venue is Oregon Dairy at 2900 Oregon Pike, Lititz 17543, starting at 8 a.m. These gatherings remain informal. All members and guests are welcome. Contact Dan Horting with questions at k4sbuilder@comcast.net or 717 285-7320.

• **2023 Chapter Dues Reminder:**

Dues continue to be \$15 per year or \$40 for three years. All dues checks should be made out to MOAA Lancaster Chapter and sent to: MOAA Lancaster Chapter, P.O. Box 5031, Lancaster, PA 17606-5031. Contact our Treasurer, Dennis Benchoff, with any dues questions at 717 560-1260 or dlbenchoff2@comcast.net. Surviving Spouses pay no Chapter dues.

• **2024 Chapter Volunteer Needs:**

Before Dan Horting assumes President in 2024, he will need replacement volunteers for: (1) to take over the 50/50 ticket event each meeting, (2) one or two members to take over the name tag/welcome table duties and (3) a volunteer to identify and schedule speakers for our member dinner/meetings for 2024 and beyond. Dan will continue the responsibility of selecting meeting places and meeting meal menus even as president.

Dave Shelton needs a relief for publicity chair and nominating chair.

Our newsletter editor, Tom Bender, is stepping down as editor at the end of this year, so will need a volunteer to take over as newsletter editor starting with the January 2024 newsletter.

We are also searching for a Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary and two replacement Directors for two of our current Directors who will by years end, have completed two-year terms each. For additional details, if interested, please contact our nominating chair, Dave Shelton, at dwsheltn@comcast.net or 717 342-4600, or the position incumbent.



Next Newsletter Release: July 1, 2023

Chapter Contacts:

President:

Bill Confer Sr conferw@gmail.com

Vice President:

Dan Horting k4sbuilder@comcast.net

Immediate Past President:

David Shelton dwsheltn@comcast.net

Treasurer:

D. Benchoff dlbenchoff2@comcast.net

Corresponding Secretary:

Bill Zeird rgerzsr@gmail.com

Recording Secretary:

Barry Schmitt sbschmitt@comcast.net

Board of Directors:

Dave Lawrence	CAPT, USN (RET)
Diane Stackhouse	Maj, USAF (RET)
Kim Bade	CDR, USN (RET)
Jim Cunningham	Lt Col, USAF (RET)
Peter Cardinal	COL, USA (RET)
Ed Hurston	Col, USAF (RET)

Adopt a Kid/Adopt a Vet:

John Gareis

Chaplain:

Kim Bade

Legislative Affairs:

Diane Stackhouse

Member Assistance:

Dennis Benchoff

***Membership Recruiting/Introductions/
Nominations/Publicity:***

David Shelton

***Mbr Records/Memorials/
Webmaster/Nwsltr Editor/Photos:***

Tom Bender

Surviving Spouse Liaison:

Susan Collins

ROTC Liaison:

Peter Cardinal

Scholarship Chair:

Ed Hurston

***Social/Programs/50-50/Meeting Sites/
Menus/Welcome Table***

Dan Horting

The MOAA Lancaster PA Chapter Newsletter is published by the Lancaster Chapter, which is an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). MOAA and its affiliated chapters and councils are nonpartisan.

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MOAA Lancaster Chapter
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at every stage.**

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